

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1-12 have been cancelled. Claims 13-16 have been amended. Claims 17-28 have been added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of new Claims 17-28 and the foregoing amendments to Claims 13-16 prior to further examination. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant's Claimed Invention

The present invention provides a method for temporarily disabling an alarm system. The alarm system includes a remote switch device providing power to at least two alarm units. The switch device includes an actuator for temporarily cutting off the power supplied to the at least two alarm units for a predetermined length of time.

New Claims

New Claim 17 is dependent on now amended Claim 13 and is directed toward coupling of the switch in parallel to each alarm unit. Support for new Claim 17 can be found in the Specification, page 3, lines 13-16. New Claim 18 is dependent on now amended Claim 13 and is directed toward temporarily interrupting the power supply for predetermined length of time. Support for new Claim 18 can be found in the Specification, page 3, lines 21-26. New Claim 19 is dependent on new Claim 18 and is directed toward a capacitor value determining the predetermined length of time. Support for new Claim 19 can be found in the Specification, page 4, line 30 – page 5, line 3.

New Claim 20 provides a method for temporarily disabling an alarm system, the method includes coupling a power source to one or more alarm units of the alarm system, signaling an alarm condition throughout the alarm system, and temporarily interrupting the power source supplying power to the alarm system from a remote location thereby temporarily disabling the alarm condition. Support for new Claim 20 can be found in the Specification, page 6, lines 16-26. New Claims 21-28 depend from new Claim 20 and add additional limitations thereto.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 1-4, 7 and 11-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Subulak et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,314,110). Claims 1-4, 7, 11, and 12 have been herein cancelled.

Subulak teaches a method and apparatus for temporarily deactivating a single conventional battery-powered smoke alarm. Subulak specifically teaches that the apparatus for deactivating the single smoke alarm is an integral part of the single smoke alarm (*See, e.g.*, col. 4, lines 21-25). Thus, the apparatus is not remote from the single smoke alarm.

The present invention provides “a switch remote from and coupled to each alarm unit, the switch for providing power to each alarm unit, the switch including a first actuator for temporarily interrupting the power supplied to each alarm unit” as is now claimed in amended Claim 13. Subulak do not teach, suggest, or otherwise make obvious this newly claimed limitation. Further, Subulak teaches away from the now claimed invention. Specifically, Subulak is concerned with a disabling apparatus that is integral (not remote) to a single smoke alarm. (*See* for example, Col. 4, lines 21-25). Amended Claim 13 and new Claim 20 include these limitations and are patently distinct from Subulak. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of now amended base Claim 13. Now amended Claims 14-16 and new Claims 17-19 depend from base Claim 13 and new Claims 21-28 depend from new base Claim 20 and are allowable for the same reasons.

35 U.S.C §103(a) Rejections

Claims 5-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Subulak et al. in view of Todd (U.S. Patent No. 4,818,748). Claims 5-10 have been herein cancelled.

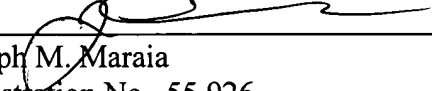


CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims (13-28) are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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